

The Southeast News

VOLUME XIII, NUMBER 11

SEPTEMBER 1965

SOS Offering Helps Feed Hungry People

For the first time in the history of the world man has the knowledge, skill and natural resources to wipe the spectre of hunger from the earth. What man lacks is the compassion and the will to see and serve the starving majority of his brothers that co-inhabit this planet.

This same generation that can send pictures of the planet Mars through billions of miles of space; that can build machines to think swiftly and accurately, far beyond the ability of the wisest man; that can look into the mysteries of science and reveal marvels that are beyond the comprehension of most men; this same generation that has the ability to achieve so much, must be warned that unless it takes drastic remedial steps immediately, many countries will face catastrophic famine in the next five years.

The United Church of Christ, working with other churches, is aware of this pending tragedy and is sending food not only to feed the hungry, but to be used in payment for work that will help the hungry man become self-sufficient.

In 1964 each SOS dollar meant the distribution of 431 pounds of food in the name of Christ. The United Church of Christ provided Church World Service with enough funds to supply 4,256 box cars of flour, milk, butter, corn, meal, beans, corn and vegetable oils for the world's hungry people. This sounds impressive but it is really a very small amount compared to the need.

Every church is urged to hold an offering one Sunday this fall for Share Our Substance. The offering should be sent to the Southeast Convention marked for this purpose.

If your church doesn't take an offering, you, as a concerned Christian, can send your gift directly to the convention office.

Delegates And Ministers Will Attend Annual Fall Association And Conference Meetings

The Rev. Dr. Harley Downs, for 45 years a missionary of the Board for World Ministries of the United Church of Christ, will be the featured mission speaker at the fall meetings of the associations and conferences of the Southeast Convention.

Dr. Downs, who served as a missionary in Japan and the Philippines, will speak at each of the fall meetings with the exception of the North Alabama Association.

Mrs. Downs likewise has served under the Board for 42 years. She and her husband were married while she was secretary of the Methodist Book Concern in Tokyo in 1922-23.

In 1964 Dr. and Mrs. Downs were missionary consultants-in-residence at the Stony Point Orientation Center in New York.

The schedule of the fall meetings of the associations and conferences is given below.

NORTH ALABAMA

The North Alabama Association will meet at the United Church, Huntsville, Alabama, on Saturday, October 2.

Registration will begin at 9 and the sessions will be called to order at 9:30 a. m. by the moderator, Rev. Bobby Aderholt.

SOUTH ALABAMA - N. W. FLORIDA

The South Alabama - Northwest Florida Association will meet on Saturday, October 9th, at the Blackwood Church, Headland, Alabama.

Registration will begin at 10:30 and the call to order at 11:00. Rev. Otto L. Culpepper is the moderator. It should be noted it will be a one-day meeting this year.

CENTRAL ALABAMA

The Central Alabama Association will meet at the Union Church, Mt. Creek, Alabama, on Sunday afternoon, October 10th.

Registration will begin at 3:00 p. m. and the moderator, Mr. Fred D. Powell,

will call the sessions to order at 3:30 p. m.

EAST ALABAMA

The East Alabama Association will hold its annual session on Wednesday and Thursday, October 13-14.

The meeting on Wednesday, October 13th, will be held at the Russell Woods Church, Phenix City, Alabama.

The meeting on Thursday, October 14th, will be held at the Bethel Church, West Point, Georgia.

The sessions on both days will begin at 10:00 a. m., Eastern Standard Time.

Rev. Dr. A. R. Van Cleave is the moderator of the association.

GEORGIA - SOUTH CAROLINA

The Georgia-South Carolina Conference will meet on Friday, October 15th, at the Oak Grove Church, Pine Mountain, Georgia.

Registration will be held between 9 and 10 and the sessions will be called to order at 10 a. m.

Rev. L. Floyd Carmack is the moderator.

KENTUCKY - TENNESSEE

The joint sessions of the Kentucky-Tennessee and the Tennessee-Kentucky Conferences will be held on Saturday and Sunday, October 16-17.

The place of the meeting will be announced at a later date.

Rev. Carolyn P. Welch is the moderator.

The churches of the convention are urged to be represented by their official delegates at their respective association or conference meeting. Visitors from the churches are always welcome at the meetings. All pastors should plan to attend.

The churches are urged to pay their per capita dues to their association or conference treasurer either before or at the fall meeting. They are also urged to bring their OCWM payments for the year up to date at that time.

The fall meetings are always valuable for information and inspiration.

History Of Blackwood Congregational Christian Church

Blackwood Congregational Church was organized May 4, 1894, in the community school house that was located near the Blackwood Methodist Church. The District Home Missionary, Rev. J. J. Stallings of Henderson, Alabama, was present at the organization. Rev. Martin Van Marshall was called as the first pastor. These were the charter members:

Males:

Josiah Brackin, Elisha Brackin, W. Cornelius Brackin, Joseph W. Brackin, Sammie B. H. Brackin

Females

Olive Brackin, Mary A. Brackin, Mollie V. Brackin

Seventeen other members joined the next month. Among them were Ben S. Tiller, his wife, Mollie Tiller, and his daughter, Mrs. Eulalah Johnson. A year later another Tiller daughter joined the church, who became Mrs. Joseph Brackin. Mr. Tiller was a very active leader so long as he lived.

We do not have the minutes of the organization meeting, but we have the minutes of the next month. They are as follows:

June 16, 1894. The following business was transacted. Secretary not present, and Joseph V. Brackin elected Sec.-Protem.

1. The discipline of the church read.
2. Members joined, N. W. Monk, Sarah Eulalah Johnson
3. Elected B. S. Tiller deacon
4. Elected Elisha Brackin treasurer
5. Elected R. L. Johnson, W. C. Brackin, J. P. Hughes, trustees
6. Elected Joseph Brackin Sunday School Superintendent
7. Named our church "Blackwood"
8. Elected B. S. Tiller and R. L. Johnson as delegates to the district conference
9. That this church recommend Bro. Elisha Brackin to the District Conference for license to preach

Rev. M. V. Marshall, Preacher
Joseph V. Brackin, Sec.-Protem

The first working to build the church was Nov. 19, 1894. Before the end of the year services were held there. The building was 28 ft. by 35 ft. The first sermon preached in the new building was by Rev. Samuel Long, using as his text Joshua 1:7: "Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law."

The first 13 years, except 1902, Joseph V. Brackin was clerk of the church. Rev. Martin Van Marshall

served as pastor five years. Rev. S. R. Brannon pastored in 1903 and 1904. Elijah A. Buttram was pastor in 1897, and William H. Newton for 1898-1900 inclusive. Rev. Samuel Long was pastor six years and Rev. James J. Burdshaw five years before 1914, and probably each served more than this number of years.

By the turn of the century there were twelve churches in the Echo District and seven ordained ministers. Elisha Brackin was licensed to preach in 1894 and two years later was ordained by the Association. The ordination service was in our Blackwood Church on March 7, 1896, with Rev. Martin V. Marshall and Rev. Elijah A. Buttram officiating in the presence of delegates and friends. Elisha Brackin served churches in South Alabama until his death in 1912, and as yet no member of our church has taken up the torch he laid down.

S. B. H. (Sammy) Brackin was a loyal leader, and held many offices. It was he who made our Communion Table and Pulpit. It is unique that the emblem of the cross is shown in the construction of the pulpit.

The Sunday School has played an important part in our church life. In 1896 an enrollment of 100 was recorded with an average of 60. The very first years a feature that attracted many was that Josiah Brackin gave free singing lessons during a part of the Sunday School hour. However, the one who has contributed more than any other to the success of the Sunday School through the years was Joseph V. Brackin. 24 years or more he was Superintendent but for about 40 years he was actually the guiding spirit of the Sunday School. The Sunday School has met continuously these fifty years. An interesting event is given by Rev. Sam Long. About 1900 the procession of the Sunday School on a Children's Day marched from the Tiller home to the church, a distance of about a half mile, and the procession was headed by the Superintendent, R. L. Johnson, and Rev. Sam Long, who was supplying the pulpit on the occasion. When the procession reached the church the columns of march halted for the rear pupils who were the smallest, to enter the church first. The church was elaborately decorated and the program included the whole day with dinner on the grounds. This service was a yearly feature sponsored by the Sunday

School, just as the Christmas Day Celebration, which has been continuously observed through the years, has been sponsored by the Sunday School.

Only a few weeks after completing the ceiling of the first church building and purchasing a new organ, the church building burned in 1910. When the church committee went later to purchase another organ the company gave a large discount when they learned that the final payment on the first organ had been paid after the fire destroyed it. Plans and work soon began on a new building at the site of the present building, and before the year ended services began in the new building. In 1911 we entertained the State Conference of Congregational Churches for the first time.

Rev. John E. Deen pastored the church from 1917-1922. In the fall of 1919 we organized the first Young People's Society. There was a membership of about 50 the first year. Miss Ida F. Lockwood was pastor in 1923 and at this time the Junior Christian Endeavor was begun. In the summers of 1924 and 1925 Rev. Lawrence L. Stanley supplied our pulpit while he was receiving his seminary training in the winter months. Rev. Newell Townsend pastored the parish in 1926, but he died in December of that year. Rev. I. Alva Hart supplied the first quarter of 1927.

During Rev. N. A. Long's pastorate from 1928-1934 our church purchased the school building in 1930. The reason for this purchase was because our school had consolidated with the town's and the church felt the need of assuming the responsibility of community activities and recreation. We had our first Bible School in 1931 and have had them each year since that time. We had our cooperative crop, or cooperatively worked some Lord's Acres in 1931, 1932, 1933. In 1933 we had 5 acres of cotton, and we paid \$233 for the piano, and had a balance of \$30.00. Our church actively supported the pastor in the first Young People's Leadership Camp in 1931, as well as in the succeeding years. Later the camp was named "Sealacon", meaning "Southeast Alabama Conference." In 1931 the Congregational and Christian Denominations united, and automatically our name became "Blackwood Congregational Christian Church."

Another noteworthy record of service

(Continued on Page 3)

Blackwood Church History Continued

is the eighteen years of service rendered by W. L. Rister. He was elected in 1927 and has been re-elected each succeeding year.

Rev. Philip Havener pastored our church during six months in the summer in 1935. He encouraged the first group of young people from our church to attend the Leadership School at Grandview, Tennessee.

Rev. A. C. Nelson began his pastorate in time to be host to the State Conference in 1935. By the end of February the next year our parish parsonage was completed and it was dedicated by a meaningful service led by Dr. F. P. Ensminger, Conference Superintendent. In December, 1935 the women of our church organized, and until the present are a vital auxiliary of the church. Several adults united with the church during these years:

Rev. W. H. Tillman was our pastor from January 1940 to April 1, 1943. Our church building burned March 31, 1941. We used the Community Building until Christmas that year when we had the first service in the present building. The cost, besides labor, was very near \$1,000.00, but on Dedication Day the following March the last dollar was pledged and in a short time the church was free of debt. Two years, while Rev. Tillman was pastor, we gathered donations of seed cotton and paid off the parsonage debt.

Our pulpit was vacant for a year and three months, but on July 1st of this year, 1944, Rev. Annie R. Campbell began her ministry with us. We believe that under her leadership we shall become more efficient in our church work, our worship and our service.

Numerically we have grown from 25 in 1894 to 40 in 1906; to 60 in 1910; to 79 in 1924; and to 104 in 1944. Our church life has been led by 17 pastors, 10 church clerks, 12 S. S. Superintendents, and many other teachers and leaders. We may look with a measure of pride at the growth of our church, but there are many tasks waiting in church and community and we may grow in love through service.

NOTE: This is written as nearly accurate as possible after searching the Year Books, the available minutes (no minutes from 1902-1923) and thru conferences with individuals. Written to file with church minutes. Read at the 50th anniversary, Oct. 29, 1944. Written by Dora Brackin.

Christian Enlistment Materials Available

This fall, many of our congregations will consider the theme, "He calls us to join Him in His passion and victory." This phrase from the United Church of Christ Statement of Faith suggests the two-fold image of cross and crown. The victory depends upon Christ's passion. Suffering has always been a part of the Christian life.

In its Christian Enlistment context, the theme suggests that if the church is to achieve what it ought in our day then it must be prepared to endure a similar sort of passion. This is far deeper than the trite phrase "Give 'till it hurts!" It rather implies that for the Christian "Giving" and "Living" are one; and that it is into the total life of our Lord that we have been called.

Either we view the passion of Christ from without, like the hostile crowd of ancient time, or we become participants in that event, and through it in the victory which is promised.

Materials are now available from the Stewardship Council which lift up this theme. Send now for posters, folders, visitor's packets, letterheads, and envelopes according to your need. Allow time for materials to reach you well ahead of the Christian Enlistment.

Every minister and church would do well to look over the available materials carefully. Even if the church does not conduct a regular Christian Enlistment (or Every Member Canvass) there are many items that can be used to advantage to encourage better stewardship practices by the members and the churches.

Order materials from:
The Stewardship Council
1505 Race Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19102

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of the Southeast Convention will meet at the convention office on Tuesday, October 5.

Also invited to the meeting will be representatives of the association of the Convention of the South and of the Alabama-Tennessee Region which will become a part of the convention January 1.

Along with other business, plans will be made for the formation of the new United Church Conference.

Georgian Clinic Offers Clergy Training Program

The Georgian Clinic, 1260 Briarcliff Road, N. E., Atlanta, Georgia, has openings for trainees in their full-time clinical training programs. The clinic is a facility of the Georgia Alcoholic Rehabilitation Service and is affiliated in training with the Georgia Association of Pastoral Care. The training program will work under a National Institute of Mental Health Grant as a Pilot Project for training clergymen in the Pastoral Care of the Alcohol Addict.

The Georgian Clinic operates a Resident Treatment Program 24 hours a day, which accommodates 50 patients, and a Day Hospital with 585 active patients. The approach is a multi-disciplinary one with equal emphasis on the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of persons. The skilled leadership directs open, closed, and family groups which contribute to a well-rounded, effective treatment clinic.

The 3-month, full time training course is entitled "An Introductory Course in Pastoral Care of the Alcohol Addict and His Family." It will be offered to selected students (preference to Seminary graduates) and parish ministers. Applicants will be required to pay fees. For the initial quarter, the fee is \$125.00 (except for students enrolled in a member Seminary of the Association \$100.00). Stipends are available for some students. The Clinic will be able to offer some rooming facilities and full board.

An Internship Year will also be offered to a limited number of Seminary graduates and ministers with pastoral experience designed to enable persons to work in depth with individuals and in groups in the Clinic and local community.

Part of the full year of this training will be available to rotating interns in other institutions of the Georgia Association of Pastoral Care.

Application and further details can be obtained by correspondence.

George P. Dominick
Chaplain and Training Supervisor
Georgian Clinic,
1260 Briarcliff Road, N. E.,
Atlanta, Ga. 30306

THE SOUTHEAST NEWS

Second-Class Postage Paid at
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

Published monthly by and for
the churches of the

SOUTHEAST CONVENTION
of Congregational Christian Churches
(The United Church of Christ)

673 Piedmont Avenue N. E.

Atlanta, Ga. 30308 TRinity 4-2558

Single Subscription \$1.50 Per Year

Group Subscription \$1.00 Per Year

STAFF

Rev. Jas. H. Lightbourne, Jr. Editor

Printed by The Roanoke Leader

Roanoke, Alabama

Vol. XIII Sept. 1965 No. 11

Superintendent's Corner

On this page is listed the church by church record of contributions to Our Christian World Mission for the period of January-August 1965.

On the basis of the listing it is easy to see that some of the churches take very seriously the responsibility and opportunity to participate in the total mission of our fellowship of churches—that is, the work of their local church within its parish, the work of the convention, and the work of our national boards and agencies at home and abroad.

Obviously, many of the churches have not made any contribution so far this year. Some will do so at the fall meetings of their association.

What about your church? Has it contributed regularly to OCWM? If not, why not take steps now to see that it does?

Perhaps even before this issue of The Southeast News is printed every church will receive a communication asking it to consider the goal for OCWM it will accept for 1966 and report it to the convention office.

Our fellowship of churches is involved in the new program "BREAK-THROUGH", which is designed to strengthen our witness and mission at home and abroad.

We have a pool of trained persons in the convention who can visit the churches and interpret the program. Many churches have already planned such a visit in order that they may better understand and participate in Our Christian World Mission. Arrangements can be made for a visit to your church by contacting the convention office. Every church needs to "Break-through" to a more effective mission.

O. C. W. M. Receipts January-August 1965

ALABAMA

Alexander City, Antioch	0
Alexander City, Hunt	0
Andalusia, Antioch	0
Andalusia, Coldwater	0
Andalusia, First	0
Andalusia, New Home	0
Arley, Robertsons Chapel	5.
Ashland, Bethel	0
Birmingham, Pilgrim	1,308.*
Brantley, Indian Creek	0
Brantley, Liberty	0
Caddo, First	0
Clio, New Hope	0
Dadeville, Elder	144.
East Tallassee, C. C.	300.
Eclectic, Watson's Chapel	0
Five Points, State Line	0
Garden City, C. C.	160.
Hackleburg, Fairview	0
Haleyville, Union Grove	36.
Hanceville, Mt. Grove	0
Headland, Blackwood	295.*
Houston, Liberty Hill	0
Huntsville, United	979.*
LaFayette, Pleasant Grove	0
Lanett, C. C.	2,345.
Lanett, Huguley	0
Langdale, C. C.	1,320.
Lineville, New Harmony	0
Midland City, Christian Hill (Inactive)	0
Montgomery, United	490.*
Moulton, Jones Chapel	0
Mt. Creek, Union	0
Phenix City, First	50.
Phenix City, Russell Woods	0
Pisgah	0
Roanoke, Antioch	39.
Roanoke, Bethany	0
Roanoke, First	0
Roanoke, Forest Home	0
Roanoke, Lowell	333.
Roanoke, Mt. Zion	0
Roanoke, New Hope	0
Roanoke, Rock Springs	0
Roanoke, Rock Stand	0
Seman, Community	0
Shawmut, Todd	13.
Steele, Mt. Lebanon	0
Tallassee, Mt. Olive	80.
Town Creek, Old Liberty	0
Wadley, Beulah	0
Wadley, Christian	172.*
Wadley, Corinth	0
Wedowee, Caver's Grove	0
Wedowee, Noon Day	0
Wetumpka, Balm of Gilead	0

FLORIDA

Baker, Good Hope	0
Baker, Pyron's Chapel	0
Bonifay, New Effort	0
Crestview, Dorcas	0

GEORGIA

Ambrose, Christian	10.
Atlanta, Center	100.
Atlanta, Central	3,217.*
Barnesville, Fredonia	327.*
Baxley, Friendship	0
Bowman, Liberty	17.
Braselton, Macedonia	0
Bristol, Antioch	0
Buford, Duncan's Creek	0
Columbus, First	0
Columbus, United	0
Crest, Hebron	0
Demorest, Federated	184.*
Doerun, New Light	0
Doerun, Poplar Arbor	0
Douglas, First	0
Enigma, Christian	0
Gaillard, Pleasant Hill	0
Hampton, County Line	0
LaGrange, Hillside	0
LaGrange, United	702.
Meansville, First	0
Meansville, Liberty	0
Pearson, Union Hill	0
Pine Mountain, Oak Grove	417.*
Richland, First	0
Richland, Providence Chapel	0
Tifton, First (Inactive)	0
Tifton, Vanceville	0
Waycross, Williams Chapel	80.
West Point, Bethel	0
Woodbury, Jones Chapel	0

KENTUCKY

Evarts, First	545.
Stearns, Community	0

SOUTH CAROLINA

Charleston, Circular	697.*
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TENNESSEE

Chattanooga, Pilgrim	3,236.*
Crossville, First	288.*
Daisy, First	0
Deer Lodge	91.*
Glen Mary	59.*
Knoxville, First	208.
Nashville, Brookmeade	450.
Pleasant Hill, Community	527.*
Robbins, Barton Chapel	72.*
Soddy, First	0

OTHER, CHURCHES UNDESIG.	170.
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TOTAL	19,466
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*Includes OGH & SOS Offerings

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THE SOUTHEAST NEWS



Faithful Churchman Dies At Pleasant Hill

Funeral services for Francis Earl Clark, 59, long-time crafts instructor at Pleasant Hill Academy and at the Pleasant Hill Craft Shop, were held Saturday, August 21, at the Community Church (United Church), Pleasant Hill, Tenn. The services were conducted by Rev. John Wiley, interim pastor, and Rev. James Conlin.

Both the Pleasant Hill Academy and the Pleasant Hill Craft Shop were institutions of the Congregational Christian Churches.

Mr. Clark was born on September 16, 1906, in Pleasant Hill and graduated from the Pleasant Hill Academy in 1924. Ten years later he joined the Academy staff as instructor in woodworking and as head of the maintenance department. One of his major undertakings was the supervision of the construction of the Ohio Building, the Academy gymnasium, in 1942.

In 1947, when the Academy became a part of the Cumberland County school system, Mr. Clark continued his woodworking in the Pleasant Hill Community Church and Center Craft Shop.

Recently the facilities of the Craft Shop were made available to one of the training programs under the Economic Opportunity Act and he served

HERE AND THERE NEWS IN BRIEF

John E. Rhodes

John E. Rhodes of Tallassee, Ala., for several years a chaplain's assistant in the United States Air Force, was called to become pastor of the Oak Grove Church, Pine Mountain, Ga., effective June 1.

Both Mr. and Mrs. (Joyce) Rhodes were born and raised in Tallassee. They have two daughters, 8 and 1, and a son, 5.

Mr. Rhodes plans to continue his education while serving the church.

* * * *

Rev. Charles Bell

Rev. Charles Bell resigned as pastor of the Lowell Church, Roanoke, Ala., effective Sept. 1. He will serve the Pleasant Grove, Liberty, and Ingram Chapel Churches in Virginia. The parsonage is in Vernon Hill, Va.

Rev. and Mrs. Bell and family will be missed from the East Alabama Association and the Southeast Convention.

* * * *

Bobby Brown Aderholt

Rev. and Mrs. Bobby Aderholt, of Haleyville, Alabama, are the proud parents of a son, Bobby Brown Aderholt, born July 22.

Mr. Aderholt is the pastor of the Fairview Church, Hackleburg, Alabama and is the present moderator of the North Alabama Association.

* * * *

Dr. Colbert Grandfather

Dr. Guy L. Colbert, pastor-at-large of the North Alabama Association, is a new grandfather.

His granddaughter, Marsha Elizabeth, was born to Mr. and Mrs. David Livingston Colbert, of Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, on August 9th.

* * * *

Supt. J. H. Lightbourne, Jr.

Rev. James H. Lightbourne, Jr. spoke at the annual Homecoming of the Hillside Church, LaGrange, Ga., on July 25.

as an instructor in the program.

Mr. Clark is survived by his wife, the former Miss Flossye Rackley, whom he married in 1934, and by an uncle, Ted Wightman, and many cousins. Mrs. Clark manages the Pleasant Hill Community Church Thrift Shop.

Homecoming Held Blackwood Church

The Blackwood Congregational Christian Church observed homecoming services on Sunday, July 25, 1965. During the worship service Miss Dora Brackin gave a short report on the history of the church. The Sunday message was presented by Rev. Joe H. Brown. In the church, flowers were presented by Mrs. Billy Hancock in memory of her mother, Mrs. Nell Kennedy.

At noon a spreaded lunch was enjoyed by all in the community building. The homecoming was climaxed by an afternoon sing. All events of the day were enjoyed by everyone.

The revival followed the homecoming from July 26-30, with the visiting evangelist, the Rev. Otto Culpepper of Andalusia, Alabama, First Church, bringing the messages during the week.

Prior to the homecoming the revival, church members were busy working on church pews. All the pews were sanded, varnished and were looking beautiful in the church for homecoming and revival.

Judy Faison
Reporter

Rev. and Mrs. Alan T. Jones

Rev. and Mrs. Alan T. Jones, former pastor and wife, were present for the annual Homecoming at Williams Chapel Church, Waycross, Ga., in May. Mr. Jones is a former pastor of the church. Rev. Ralph D. Worley is the present pastor.

* * * *

United Nations Seminar

United Nations Seminars for Youth will be held under the auspices of the Youth Ministry Staff and the council for Christian Social Action November 8-10, 1965 and April 18-20, 1966. They will be held at the Church Center for the United Nations, First Ave., and 44th St., New York.

For information write the convention office or, Youth Ministry Staff, 1505 Race Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19102.

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SHARE OUR SUBSTANCE



FOOD—the first thing a man must have for his family. **TONG HA KIM** builds a dyke to reclaim land which he will farm. His wages are food from Church World Service in Korea—provided by your gift to **SHARE OUR SUBSTANCE**. Governments and struggling people must do much to prevent world famine. The church helps point the way in over 40 countries with lunches for millions of school children, food for hospital patients and for others in greatest need.

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